

opc Bulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • October 2010

Book Questions Artists' Obligation in Occupied Paris

EVENT PREVIEW: OCTOBER 26

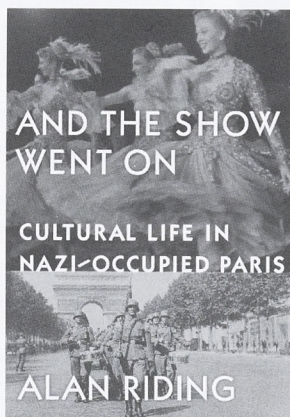
by Sonya K. Fry

When the Nazis marched effortlessly into Paris on June 14, 1940, they changed the rich cultural life of the City of Lights. Artists, especially Jews and leftists, faced difficult choices and many careers and lives were cut short.

OPC member **Alan Riding** captures these times in the new book, *And the Show Went On: Cultural Life in Nazi-Occupied Paris* [Alfred A. Knopf]. The book recounts Parisian life under Nazi occupation and the forced compromises of French writers, artists and performers under Hitler's rule. There were moral and artistic choices for those who stayed and were forced to decide whether to resist, collaborate or compromise. Riding introduces readers to a panoply of writers, painters, composers, actors and dancers who kept working during the occupation.

As Riding shows, Paris continued to be Paris. Nightclubs and brothels catered to German soldiers. Theatre, ballet, film and music all continued, albeit under the surveillance of the German authorities. Both Maurice Chevalier and Edith Piaf sang before French and German audi-

(Continued on Page 2)



Naka Nathaniel

A Must-Have Field Guide for Journalists

EVENT PREVIEW: NOVEMBER 3

by Sonya K. Fry

Little Bunch of Madmen, written by OPC member Mort Rosenblum, is a field guide for correspondents and a manual for anyone who wants to follow world news. The second half of the title *Elements of Global Reporting* explains what it takes to get an international story and it equips readers, viewers and listeners to understand real news.

Mort says, "This is the manual I wish I'd had back in the 1960s when I was dropped into the Congolese mayhem, clueless, sleepless and scared witless. It's also the primer I wish people back home could have had at hand to understand what they were reading and watching."

The title comes from a phrase by H.R.

Knickerbocker: "Whenever you see hundreds of thousands of sane people trying to get out of a place, and a little bunch of madmen struggling to get in, you know the latter are newspapermen."

If there is one thing that committed reporters insist on is being there, witness-

ing the events, asking the questions and then putting the story into a cogent narrative for the audience to understand. In the era of the internet so often stories are written from afar; they

are aggregated from several reporting sources and then are passed off as news.

Editors offer interactive feedback. Russia invades Poland: what's your opinion? Opinion is trumping news. The audience is caught in a trap of no-nothingness.

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Mort Rosenblum, with camera, in Calcutta.

Gary Knight

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Riding Book Night: (Continued From Page 1)

ences. Pablo Picasso, whose art was officially banned, continued to paint in his Left Bank apartment.

Artists faced personal and nationalistic quandaries. Were they saving French culture by working? Were they betraying France if they performed before German soldiers or made movies with Nazi approval? What were the consequences after the war for those artists that "collaborated" or made an accommodation with the enemy? Does the artist have an obligation to be a "role model" or should creative work be outside of any political consideration?

Riding was the European Cultural Correspondent for *The New York Times* for twelve years based in Paris. Previously

he was bureau chief in Rome, Rio de Janeiro and Mexico City. Riding is also the author of *Distant Neighbors*. He continues to live in Paris with his wife, Marlise Simons, a writer for the *Times*.

The OPC and La Maison Francaise of New York University, with the support of the Florence Gould Foundation, will present a Book Night with Alan Riding on Tuesday, October 26 at New York University's Maison Francaise, 16 Washington Mews (at University Place). A Reception starts at 6 p.m. with Talk at 7 p.m. Books will be available for purchase and signing. RSVP by calling the OPC office at 212-626-9220, or e-mail sonya@opcofamerica.org or log on to the website: www.opcofamerica.org.

Rosenblum Book Night:

(Continued From Page 1)

Opinion is good; facts are difficult. Shouting trumps sane discussion and exchange of ideas.

Just reading the first paragraph in Rosenblum's book gives you the flavor of his style of writing, his humor, but also his serious intent in making a point:

"Back in the proto-technology days, when foreign correspondents spent weeks out of touch with their desks, I asked friends what advice editors had offered them as they head out on their first assignment. Bob Sullivan, as a kid off to an ugly war taking shape in Vietnam for United Press International, went to a promising source, his foreign editor, a gravelly voiced, gray-haired legend named Walter Logan, (who) had been everywhere. "Cotton underwear," Logan told him.

"Nylon clings in the tropics."

Good advice is still good advice, but where to gather this valuable information has changed. Editors rarely leave their desks. Reporters often have no watering hole to gather information from other more seasoned journalists. How to cross cultural bridges, how to find the human context that underpins good reporting, how to get to the core knowledge is just as essential as the right underwear.

Jon Lee Anderson of *The New Yorker* praises the book: "A rare blend of great storytelling and pure wisdom, *Little Bunch of Madmen* is the best thing yet written about the state of modern journalism by one of its few true living masters, and every reporter working today should go out and buy it and read it."

Rosenblum's passion for reporting is

LITTLE
BUNCH
OF
MADMEN
ELEMENTS
OF
GLOBAL
REPORTING
x
MORT
ROSENBLUM

infectious. Rosenblum joined the AP in 1965 and has run AP bureaus in Kinshasa, Lagos, Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta, Singapore, Buenos Aires and Paris. He was editor of the *International Herald Tribune* from 1979 to 1981, but then returned to the AP as Special Correspondent, based in Paris. Mort left AP in 2004 and

launched *Dispatches*, a topical quarterly magazine. He is a Professor of Journalism at the University of Arizona, Tucson.

The *Little Bunch of Madmen* Book Night will take place at Club Quarters, 40 West 45 Street on Wednesday, November 3. Reception begins at 6 p.m. with Talk at 6:30 p.m. To RSVP call the OPC office 212-626-9220 or e-mail sonya@opcofamerica.org or log on to the OPC website www.opcofamerica.org.

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A Night of Deft Jokes and Commentary, Politics Aside

EVENT RECAP: SEPTEMBER 27

by Aimee Vitrak

At the OPC Book Night for P.J. O'Rourke's latest book, *Don't Vote: It Only Encourages the Bastards*, Christopher Buckley asked O'Rourke about his political evolution, from a bong-toking hippie in the early 1970s to a McCain voter in 2008. He said it happened over time, seeing the amount of taxes taken out of his pay check and meeting a former member of the Weather Underground who was terrified of the group.

Buckley opened the event held at Club Quarters on Monday, September 27, stating that this latest book is O'Rourke's fourteenth book. "I hate PJ," Buckley said with joking envy. "He is one of the few authors of whom I have read all of his books. Would that I could make this same claim about Tolstoy and Shakespeare."

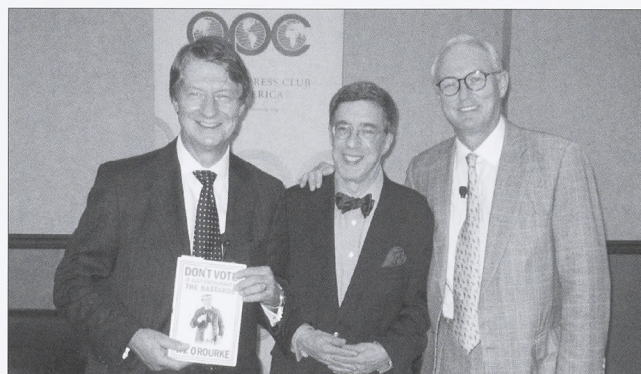
The titles to O'Rourke's oeuvre do provide a glimpse at the tone and political persuasion of who *The Wall Street Journal* dubbed "the funniest man in America": *Parliament of Whores*, *Give War a Chance*, *Eat the Rich*, *Peace Kills* and now *Don't Vote: It Only Encourages the Bastards*. "I can now honestly state, that this is his best yet," Buckley said. "It's high-octane stuff, like his Porche 911." Buckley said that O'Rourke is not merely funny, he is erudite, deeply read and a sharp analytical thinker. "P.J. has a gift of making his insights sound funny and that is no mean feat. He has more entries in *The Oxford Dictionary of Humorous Quotations* than any other living American author."

O'Rourke gave the crowd a "micro reading" of his book starting with the aforementioned chapter with the untoward title. He's developed a new theory of political science, because a book based on "throw the bums out" would only be a few pages. "Instead of basing my theory on the big thinkers, John Locke, Tom Paine and John Stewart Mill," O'Rourke said. "I'm basing my theory on a stupid game played by teenager girls during all-night giggle sessions at sleepovers, which my wife told me about. To put it politely, 'Kill/Boff/Marry.'"

In the game, girls have to decide which three boys to kill, hook up with and marry. O'Rourke had his eureka moment during his wife's explanation: "Wait a minute," he said. "That's politics! Instead of dates, think about candidates. It's an excellent analytical tool."

Here's how the game works in action: Government entities: kill postal service, get in bed with FEMA, marry the armed forces. Government policies: screw farm subsidies, marry social security, health care reform kills us. And presidential races: "Take for example the 1992 race: kill Ross Perot. Hardly avoid a boff from Bill Clinton. And marry George H.W. Bush. But the outcome of that particular game is not a foregone conclusion," O'Rourke said. "Witness our mysterious elopement with Clinton instead of our walk down the aisle with George H.W." Now for 2000, people of good will were evenly divided about going to bed with Gore or get married to George W. Bush, though I think we all agreed to kill Ralph Nader. Power, freedom, responsibility: kill, boff, marry."

O'Rourke was asked about the Tea Party movement and he'd recently written an article for *World Affairs* titled:



From left: P.J. O'Rourke, OPC President David A. Andelman and event interlocutor Christopher Buckley

"Innocence Abroad: The Tea Party's Search for Foreign Policy." He said that the article was difficult to write on two counts: there is no Tea Party foreign policy and there is no Tea Party.

"I have spent time with people of the tea party-ish inclination," he said. "Like many populist groups, these people are not terribly articulate and many of their ideas are still inchoate. However, they grasp the 'gimme rights' or as political scientists like to say 'positive rights.' Tea Party supporters are well aware that an expansion of 'positive rights' beyond what's wise, certainly beyond what we can afford, is a central problem in our politics and are willing to face that problem."

He said that if some Tea Party candidates are elected in the upcoming mid-term election they'll be tested to see if they actually have the courage to *do* something about the quagmire of "positive rights." "It will be a sacrifice for all of us in order to contract positive rights," O'Rourke said. "But most politicians refuse to acknowledge that just the quantitative size of positive rights in our system is a serious burden, so you have to give the Tea Party some credit for looking at a political problem that doesn't actually affect their daily life. They're angry about certain abstract principles and trends and that is civic engagement."

Politics wasn't the only evolution he spoke about. He lamented that since the dawn of the Internet, he's gone from being a writer to being a "content provider."

"I realize the other day I no longer work for a magazine that makes a profit. This internet thing is horrible," O'Rourke said. "What's horrible about it is that it sends a message that content is free. For 40 years I was a writer, now I am a content provider. Content is free. This sucks. When Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone was it going to be *free*? Was Henry Ford making cars for *free*? Why is the internet free? Because it was invented by the military and academics, in other words, by fascists and communists. Somebody's got to unfree this thing immediately."

Some attendees wore campaign buttons to toast O'Rourke's book. The OPC displayed its own framed campaign buttons from the presidential campaign of 1896 (free silver) to the Humphrey/Muskie ticket in 1968- a span of 72 years.

Event videos are at www.youtube.com/opcofamerica. For more photos see page 10 or at www.opcofamerica.org.

Peterson's New Book Takes Readers Inside the Real Iran

EVENT RECAP: SEPTEMBER 20

by Aimee Vitrak

Scott Peterson, one of the most well traveled and experienced foreign correspondents of his generation, spoke about his new book, *Let the Swords Encircle Me: Iran – A Journey Behind the Headlines* with Gary Sick of Columbia University as interlocutor on September 20.

Sick introduced the book and the subject of Iran by saying it's perfectly understandable that most Americans don't know anything about Iran. "It's *really* a complicated system," he said. "It doesn't play by the rules. But for those who are really interested, there has been a lot of good reporting over the years, but I can't think of anybody who has consistently over a long period of time who's done a better job than Scott. *The [Christian Science] Monitor* granted him room to do what he does in a way that most newspapers simply would not. The idea of having someone stay with the story all the way through, at least in modern American journalism is really extraordinary."

Peterson agreed the benefit to going back to Iran repeatedly is to return to the same voices. "I got to know the people and trace their own political changes," he said. "I chart their pulling away from politics and their disillusionment with the regime. [The book] is really a tale of two visits." He said during his first visit he went to the province that voted the most for Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in all of Iran. "The people said, 'it's fantastic,' of Ahmadinejad's victory then," he said. "The people complained about local officials and saw Ahmadinejad as a savior [in 2004]." Peterson returned to the city four years later and within thirty minutes, Mir-Hossein Mousavi the opposition candidate arrived. The reception for him was overwhelming. "They killed cows alongside the road [in his honor]," Peterson said. "The political situation had changed there. This was just a fragment of the Iranian picture."

Sick asked Peterson what Americans missed by not having journalists in Iran. Peterson said, "The kind of things you miss is to be there the day Ahmadinejad won in 2005. The first one to vote was Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, a huge character in the establishment. When he voted, he voted where the Ayatollah Khomeini used to preach. The man came in like an emperor, cast his ballot then said, 'I dedicate my life to ending religious fanaticism in this country.' This is the old-guard voting. What you needed to feel and taste and eat in fact on that day in 2005, was the scene that took place in eastern Tehran where Ahmadinejad voted. The moment Ahmadinejad walks in, it's like someone rolled a grenade down the aisle. The man bear hugs and kisses his way through the crowd. This is the popular flavor in action in the subsequent five years. How he handles his politics is very much a part of that. If you didn't see that transition on that day, you probably missed something in the translation."

Peterson has not returned to Iran since the election in 2009 and said there are very few ways to speak and communicate with people inside Iran. Skype is probably the best way or on landlines because they're neglected by the regime in favor of monitoring cell phones. While the regime has been successful in keeping people off the streets, Peterson said, "I don't buy into the thinking that the green movement is dead, or because we don't see it on



From left: OPC members Robert Nickelsberg, Scott Peterson and President David A. Andelman and event interlocutor Gary Sick.

the streets that it doesn't exist or that somehow the regime has won. I think the regime knows that it's lost. The social contract that the regime had with Iranians for all these years broke during the violence that happened in this election. No one expected it would be stolen, or the reaction. Anger still exists. It's widespread."

The book's title comes from Imam Hussain's martyrdom in 680 A.D. Peterson explains that Hussain said, "if the religion of Muhammad will only survive with my death," then he opens up his tunic and says, 'oh let the swords encircle me,' and he became the lord of the martyrs and revered by Shiites and used as an ideological tool by the Islamic regime for convincing people that this was in fact the purpose of this war." This explanation dovetailed nicely into Peterson's descriptions of one of the more successful tactics the regime has undertaken to control its populace: a series of propaganda films translated as "Tales of Victory." The films follow military units of soldiers on the front line and its purpose was to give a salt-of-the-Earth ideological justification for why they are there. Peterson is one of the few Americans to have seen a few of these 30- to 60-minute films.

"What you see in these films are soldiers saying, 'we are the new martyrs; we are the soldiers of God,'" Peterson said. "This is some of the most powerful propaganda. It appears so natural, so straight, so from the heart. The genius of this director is putting it in a way that makes goosebumps jump up on your skin."

As for the future of Iran, Peterson said the only way to forecast the future of Iran is to know that it's unpredictable and that change will come on the heels of a sudden event, like an unexpected death among the Islamic regime's top ranks.

OPC member George Bookman asked if Americans should fear nuclear weapons from Iran. Peterson said the regime has not made a decision on nuclear weaponry and it doesn't need to. "The determining factor may be how much the U.S. and Israel push Iran." In addition, the regime like the U.S., is so mired in its domestic issues like quashing internal resistance that nuclear arms are tenth on their list. Sick added, "there are forty countries in the world that can build nuclear weapons and Iran wants to be in that club and are close enough to be."

Peterson was asked if the Iranians are happy. Peterson said that Iranians are similar to Americans. "They are determined to live their lives within the confines of the Islamic regime. People complain. But in Iran, you can do anything."

Videos from the conversation are at www.opcofamerica.org



PEOPLE... with Al Kaff

GORDON CURRIE/BILL SHINN

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS: Jane Reilly,

Executive Director of the OPC Foundation, reports that recent scholarship winners are off on their careers: "**Caroline Stauffer** had an excellent summer in the Reuters bureau in Mexico City. **Jeff Roberts** is back from Paris and landed the prize, a full-time job as a reporter at Reuters. **Artis Henderson** left recently for the AP bureau in Dakar and produced two by-lined stories her first week. **James Matthews** will head back to the Sao Paulo Reuters bureau when he graduates from NYU in December and **Leah Finnegan** plans to do her AP internship in Cairo next spring. **Jenny Gross**, thanks to contacts she made here [at the Scholarship Luncheon] during her stay, is interning at the Johannesburg AP bureau."

Christopher J. Stein, who won this year's OPC Foundation's **Roy Rowan** Scholarship, now is reporting from Johannesburg. In an e-mail message to Roy, Chris wrote in part, "I'm enjoying my time working for the IPS [Inter Press Service News Agency, Africa bureau], as well as living in Johannesburg. We do development-related stories, and all our articles are long (as in no 300-word blurbs, mostly 700-words and up). Though this can be time consuming, it also means our reporting tends to be very in-depth. All in all, it's a good internship." Chris won his scholarship with an essay on the rural poverty he saw in Africa.

Sarah Mishkin, winner of the 2008 Emanuel R. Freedman scholarship, has been hired as a graduate trainee for the *Financial Times* in London. Previously she was an *FT* intern. Sarah's winning essay described her efforts to discover the remains of an Egyptian Jewish culture.

MURDERS: *El Diario*, a newspaper published in Ciudad Juárez, one of Mexico's most violent cities, announced it will restrict coverage of drug wars after one of its photographers was shot dead. In an editorial on September 19, the newspaper wrote, "We do not want more injured or more intimidations. It is impossible to carry out our role in these conditions." Three days earlier, **Luis Carlos Santiago Orozco**, 21, and **Carlos Manuyel Sanchez Colunga**, left a photography

workshop when they were fired upon, killing Santiago. He was the newspaper's second journalist to be fatally shot in the past two years.

Riad al-Saray, 35, a presenter of religious and political programs on Iraq's state al-Iraqiya TV, was shot dead by unknown gunmen September 7 when he was leaving his home in Baghdad. Saray was known for his attempts to reduce sectarian differences in Iraq. Reporters Without Borders said 230 journalists and staff have been killed in Iraq since the U.S.-led invasion in 2003.

Abdullahi Omar Gedi, 25, a technician at Radio Daljir in Somalia, was fatally stabbed six times August 31 by two men. His cellphone was missing, prompting police suspicion that his attackers were thieves.

The body of **Israel Zelaya Diaz**, 62, a commentator on Radio International in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, was found in a sugar cane plantation August 24 a few hours after he was kidnapped by gunmen. He had been shot three times in the head. Zelaya, who commented on controversial topics, was the ninth journalist killed in Honduras this year.

HAITI: In the September issue of *ARTnews*, OPC member **Stevenson Swanson** writes about the efforts of several American cultural institutions, including the Smithsonian, to repair the thousands of artworks damaged in the January earthquake that struck Haiti.

Swanson e-mailed about how the story came to be: "I was drawn to this story in part because, although most people know that Haiti is one of the poorest countries on earth, far fewer realize that it has a rich and flourishing art culture. I also thought it was interesting that the rescue effort was set in motion by a Minneapolis curator who is a retired Army major (a fairly unlikely background for a curator). One of her motivations in launching the conservation project was her experience working with the staff of the Baghdad museum after its looting in 2003. She had been

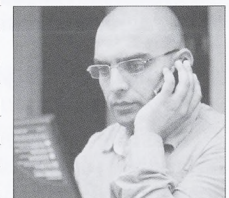


Riad al-Saray

frustrated by the international community's lack of response to that disaster and didn't want to see it repeated in Haiti." The article can be read at ARTNews.com, or go to <http://tinyurl.com/2e489qz>

HANOI: **Tim Page**, 66, a UPI photographer during the Vietnam War, fell and broke his hip September 12 during a trip to Vietnam to judge Canon-sponsored photo exhibits in Hanoi and Saigon. Tim was evacuated to a hospital in Bangkok where physicians discovered that he had three blocked heart arteries. Surgeons implanted stents to open the arteries and later performed surgery to repair his broken hip.

ISLAMABAD: Investigative reporter **Umar Cheema**, 34, was driving home from dinner on September 4 when men in black commando garb stopped his car, blindfolded him and drove him to a house on the outskirts of Islamabad. There he was beaten, stripped naked, his hands cuffed behind him, his head and eyebrows shaved, and videotaped in humiliating positions. After six hours, he was dumped on a road



Umar Cheema

100 miles from Islamabad. Cheema, a reporter for *The News* of Pakistan, had written several articles critical of the Pakistani Army. In a *New York Times* dispatch from Islamabad, **Jane Perlez** wrote, "What makes his case different [from similar ordeals] is that Mr. Cheema has spoken out about it, describing in graphic detail what happened in the early hours of Sept. 4, something rare in a country where victims who suspect that their brutal treatment was at the hands of government agents often choose, out of fear, to keep quiet." In 2007, Cheema won a Daniel Pearl Journalism Fellowship to train foreign journalists, and he worked for six months in *The New York Times* newsroom.

JAKARTA: **Erwin Arnada**, former editor of the Indonesian edition of *Playboy*, went into hiding after the

(Continued on Page 6)

(Continued From Page 5)

Indonesian Supreme Court announced in August that in a previously unpublicized 2009 verdict he had been sentenced to two years in prison on conviction of indecency. Although free of nudity the Indonesian *Playboy* came under attack from hard-line Islamic fundamentalists. The Indonesian edition was started in 2006 but soon folded.

KABUL: Three Afghan journalists were arrested in September but released a few days later. **Mohammed Nadar**, a staff correspondent for Al Jazeera, and **Rahmatullah Nekzad**, a freelancer who worked for Al Jazeera and the Associated Press, were arrested by international forces on suspicion of collaborating with the Taliban, the U.S. military announced on September 22. The Afghan intelligence agency arrested radio journalist **Hojatullah Mojadadi**, leader of the Kapisa Province Journalists' Association, but did not say what the charges were. Announcing the releases, coalition spokesman U.S. Rear Admiral Gregory J. Smith said, "After reviewing the initial intelligence and information received during questioning, the two men were not considered a significant security threat and were released." The radio journalist arrested by Afghan authorities also was freed.



Kosuke Tsuneoka, a freelance Japanese journalist, was released September 4, five months after he was kidnapped in a Taliban-controlled area of northern Afghanistan. Tsuneoka captors, assumed to be Taliban members, apparently released him because he is a fellow Muslim, Japan's Kyodo News Service said. Tsuneoka, 41, converted to Muslim in 2000 while in Moscow. He was kidnapped in the nation of Georgia in 2001 and held for several months.

KIEV, Ukraine: IPI reports that a Ukrainian television station, which had its broadcast frequencies canceled after a court found in favor of allegations of irregularities in the manner in which the stations were awarded their license, has decided to defy the court ruling and continue its broadcasts.

Channel TVi called the action by the National Council of Ukraine on Television and Radio Broadcasting - which issues the license - "unfounded persecution" after a warning issued on September 22 to television company Skhind + (East +) in the city Slavyanska, which legally re-broadcasts TVi's programs.

Mexican Reporter Granted Asylum in U.S.

by Kevin McDermott

The Associated Press has reported that **Jorge Luis Aguirre**, the Mexican journalist whose coverage of Mexico's drug wars prompted a threat on his life, has had his petition for asylum in the United States granted.

Aguirre, editor of the online publication *La Polaka*, was on his way to a murdered colleague's funeral in 2008 when he received a call on his mobile phone warning "You're next." He immediately fled for his life to El Paso, Texas. Aguirre testified to a U.S. Senate committee last year that officials in the state of Chihuahua did not like his criticism of a local prosecutor.

The OPC was among the organizations supporting Aguirre's petition. Until September 23, the outcome of his case was uncertain. As the AP points out, the U.S. receives nearly 3,000 asylum requests from Mexico each year. Between 2005 and 2009, 252 were allowed. Cases are decided on a judgment of whether a petitioner is being persecuted because of race, religion, political views, nationality or membership in a particular social group. Physical threat is not by itself sufficient for asylum.

Carlos Spector is an El Paso attorney handling several asylum cases involving Mexican journalists, including **Emilio Gutiérrez Soto**, whose petition is also supported by the OPC. Spector suggests that the decision in Aguirre's case may signal good news for threatened Mexican reporters.

"What has changed is the situation in Mexico," Spector told the AP, "where it's now impossible to deny reality." The decision in favor of Aguirre, he suggested, "is an indication that the asylum office is now listening."

In the Gutiérrez case, the reporter fled to El Paso after writing a series of stories in *El Diario del Noroeste* about alleged Mexican military abuses of civilians. Subsequent death threats prompted him to flee with his 15-year-old son. They were held in a federal detention facility before being released. Gutiérrez's asylum request is pending.

Since the Mexican government's declaration of "war" against the narco traffickers in 2006, Mexican reporters have found themselves covering one of the most dangerous beats in the world. According to Mexico's National Commission on Human Rights, since 2000 a total of 65 journalists in Mexico have been killed in violence. If those numbers are correct the country is now the deadliest in which to practice journalism.



Jorge Luis Aguirre, right, fled to El Paso in November 2009 after receiving death threats.

Citing article 45-1 of the Law of Ukraine "About Information," TVi Chief Executive Mykola Kniazhytskyi said in a statement sent to the International Press Institute: "In accordance with current legislation of Ukraine, we do not consider the decision of the National Council of Ukraine on Television and Radio Broadcasting to revoke amendments to our license a sufficient cause for termination of our terrestrial broadcast."

"We will continue to broadcast... [and work] to prevent further imposition of censorship in Ukraine."

KOHAT, Pakistan: **Asad Qureshi**, a British-Pakistan journalist who was kid-

napped in March, was released in September. While working on a story for a British broadcaster, he was seized along with two former Pakistani intelligence officers in Pakistan's Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province tribal area. One of the intelligence officers, Khaalid Khwaja, was killed, and his body was found with a note from the terror organization Asian Tigers saying he was killed because of his links to the CIA.

MARJA, Afghanistan: OPC members **Micah Garen** and **Marie-Helene Carleton** collaborated on a multimedia presentation on Newsweek.com. Included in the feature is the article "Marja: The

New Afghan Battleground,” which relays how U.S. soldiers are trying to win over skeptical Afghans.

“Faces of Marja” includes Human Landscapes: Nine years after the war began, Americans have made progress — in baby steps. Telling the Story: Journalists describe 40 years of dramatic change. Female Engagement: An all-female company deploys to win over local women. Playing Cat and Mouse With the Taliban: American troops try to stay one step ahead of the enemy. These videos can be viewed at Newsweek.com.

MOGADISHU, Somalia: **Barkhad Awale Adan**, 60, director of Hurma Radio, was killed August 24 when he was hit by gunfire while fixing a transmitter on the roof of his station. The accident happened during fighting between government forces and the Islamist insurgent group Al Shabab.

NEW YORK: **Arlene Getz**, who was re-elected an OPC vice president in August, on September 1 left *Newsweek*, where she was editorial director of the magazine’s worldwide special editions, to take up a new position as editor in charge of media at Thomas Reuters. In one of *Newsweek*’s first executive changes after its new ownership started in October, **Rhonda Murphy** became the magazine’s global publisher. Since 2008, she had been publisher and managing director of *Newsweek International*.

ST. LOUIS: To complete a requirement for a journalism degree at Washington University, **Susan Graw** went to Hong Kong in 1973 and filed freelance dispatches to several U.S. newspapers. This September, she started teaching a night course in public relations at that same university. After working for newspapers in Hong Kong and the United States, Susan joined Union Electric in St. Louis and now is PR director for that gas and electric utility. She is married to **Jim Gallagher**, a columnist at the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, and they have two daughters: **Megan**, who works in PR at Peabody Coal, and **Emily**, a student at the Sorbonne in Paris.

TEHRAN: The day after Iran’s president defended his country’s record in permitting criticism, Iranian dissident journalist **Emadeddin Baghi** was sentenced to six years in prison on charges that included “propaganda against the state,” *The New York Times* reported in September. Earlier he was sentenced to a year in prison, and he has been held in solitary

confinement since last year. Websites said Baghi’s sentences related to his interview with a dissident cleric that was broadcast on BBC’s Persian language service. On September 21, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who was attending the United Nations General Assembly, met with reporters to defend Iran’s judiciary over the arrests of some 500 journalists, activists and government officials after elections that returned him to power.

“People criticize the government very harshly in fact, and we don’t create any restrictions on it,” the president told reporters.



Emadeddin Baghi

VIENNA: The International Press Institute (IPI) honored a blogger and a radio station in September. Cuban blogger **Yoani Maria Sanchez Cordero** was named a World Press Freedom Hero for her blog, *Generation Y*, that criticizes Cuba’s restraint of free speech and expression. She has been harassed by government authorities.

Radio Okapi in the Democratic Republic of Congo received the IPI’s 2010 Free Media Pioneer Award for its broadcasts aimed at contributing to peace in that country. The station’s news editor, **Serge Maaheshe Kasole**, was killed in 2007 and its journalists have received threats for its reporting on fighting between rebels, government forces and local militants.

Meanwhile, the IPI Executive Board appointed **Carl-Eugen Eberle** as its new chairman in September. He is director of legal affairs at Germany’s public service TV channel ZDF (Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen, in English Second German Television). Eberle took over from **Janne Virkkunen**, editor-in-chief of *Helsingin Sanomat* newspaper in Finland, who had been chairman since 2008. The new Executive Board also includes two new vice chairmen: **Galina Sidarova**, editor-in-chief of the Russian newspaper *Sovershenno Sekretno*, and **Pavol Mudry**, founder and former general manager of SITA-Slovak news agency. They join Vice Chairman **Simon Li**, former assistant manager of the *Los Angeles Times*.



OPC Executive Director **Sonya Fry** went on a Danube River Cruise this summer but the OPC was never far from her thoughts as she had dinner with a former

intern **Zuzana Kurnasova** in Budapest. Zuzana just finished her studies at Central European University which is funded by George Soros. While interning at the OPC in 2008 Zuzana was a student at the Bard Globalization and International Affairs Program in New York City. Fry writes: “After a lovely dinner Zuzana walked me all around Budapest showing me the sites. There are no pictures of our evening together since the next day my wallet and camera were stolen.”

In Vienna, Fry had lunch with OPC member **Dardis McNamee**, Editor in Chief of the English language *Vienna Review*. She reports: “We had lunch overlooking the garden of the Hapsburgs where this picture was taken. A generous tour guide lent me her camera for the duration of my trip.”



OPC Executive Director Sonya Fry, left and Dardis McNamee, editor of Vienna Review.

WASHINGTON D.C.: Finalists for the 2010 Online Journalism Awards, many pushing the envelope of innovation and excellence in digital storytelling and distribution, were announced on September 28 by the Online News Association and its partner, the School of Communication at the University of Miami. OPC Board Member **Travis Fox** was on the *Frontline* team that created “Law and Disorder” along with ProPublica and the *New Orleans Times-Picayune*. The group has been nominated for the Gannett Foundation Award for Innovative Investigative Journalism.

A team of 12 journalists representing a diverse cross-section of the industry met at the university’s Coral Gables, Florida, campus and seven more conferred internationally to select the finalists, which range from independent and nonprofit news and community sites to major media and international organizations. The winners will be announced at the 2010 ONA Conference and Online Journalism Awards Banquet on Saturday, October 30, at the Marriott Renaissance in Washington, D.C.

(Continued on Page 8)

(Continued From Page 7)

ZVECAN, Kosovo: An explosive device was thrown into the courtyard of the house of **Caslav Milisavljevic**, editor-in-chief of Radio Kosovska Mitrovica, during the early morning hours of September 27. Family members in the house were not injured, but a car parked in front of the house was completely burned. The house also was attacked on July 20, damaging three cars.

WEDDINGS

Andrea Harris, 38, an actress, and **David Smith**, 35, Africa correspondent for the London newspaper *The Guardian*, were married September 25 at the Boathouse in New York City's Central Park by the president of the New York Society for Ethical Culture. Smith had seen Harris in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," and he waited through a January night to buy a ticket to "Hamlet" in which she performed. Finally the couple met last year in the London offices of *The Observer*, *The Guardian's* Sunday newspaper, where Smith was a reporter and Harris was doing temp work after the Royal Shakespeare Company's season in which she performed.



◆
Anne Bagamery, 53, a senior business news editor at *The International Herald Tribune* in Paris, and **Robert Marino**, 63, a former deputy managing editor of *The Tribune*, were married also on September 25 in Paris by a deputy mayor for the city's 15th arrondissement.

PEOPLE REMEMBERED

Frank J. Jordan, 83, a correspondent during the Korean War, then an NBC News executive and finally a journalism professor, died September 20 in his New York City home after a heart attack. During World War II service in the U.S. Army, Jordan reported from Italy for *Stars & Stripes*. After receiving a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University, he joined United Press and covered the Korean War, Japan and Indonesia. Jordan joined NBC News in the mid-1950s and was based in Chicago and New York before serving as Washington bureau chief from 1968 to

Robert Capa at the International Center for Photography

by Sonya K. Fry

The OPC is the keeper of the Robert Capa flame. Its Robert Capa Gold Medal Award is one of the most prestigious in the world of photojournalism so I was most eager to see the new exhibition at the International Center of Photography (ICP) entitled *The Mexican Suitcase*. Negatives from Capa, his girlfriend Gerda Taro and his friend David Seymour (known as Chim) were recently discovered in Mexico. The 4,500 negatives, stored in three boxes, document the Spanish Civil War and have been lost since 1939.

This material provides a uniquely rich and panoramic view of the Spanish Civil War, a conflict between the Spanish government and the Fascist uprising, which has often been described as a dress rehearsal for the Second World War with the rise of the Fascists - Hitler in Germany and Mussolini in Italy. Liberal thinkers, writers, photographers went to Spain to try to capture the conflict and to convince the world that fighting fascism was a noble cause. Capa's photos, widely circulated in the European press, dramatically recorded battle sequences and the effects of war on the civilian population.

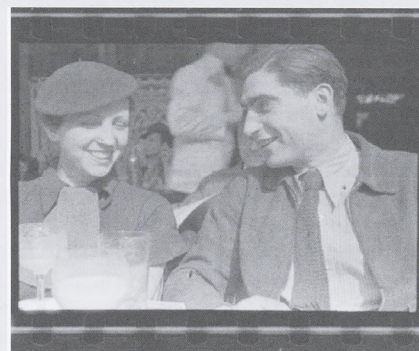
The work of these legendary photographers laid the foundation for modern war photography. Taro died in 1937 covering the Battle of Brunete. After the civil war Chim and Capa founded the Magnum Photo agency in Paris.

The exhibition is displayed as modern contact sheets which allows us to see the order in which the images were conceived and shot; however, this is a construct because these negatives were lost long before contact sheets were made. It is interesting to see multiple shots of the same subject and decide which is the best picture and which should be out-takes; these days that is called interactive. If you are interested in photojournalism, European history or the pleasure of good photography, I highly recommend this exhibition at the ICP, located at 1133 Avenue of the Americas at 43rd Street. It will be on view until January 9, 2011. For more information go to www.icp.org/museum/exhibitions.



One of the pictures by Capa includes Ernest Hemingway, center, and *New York Times* journalist Herbert Matthew to his right, flanked by two Republican soldiers in Teruel, Spain, late December 1937.

Below: Gerda Taro and Robert Capa on the terrace of Café du Dôme in Montparnasse, Paris, early 1936.



◆
1976. After retiring in 1979, he became dean of the communications school at American University and in 1986 a professor of journalism at the University of the Virgin Islands on St Thomas island. Born in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, Jordan survived the 1936 Johnstown flood by taking refuge with his mother and sister in the second story of their family home.

◆
From *The New York Times*: "Early in his tenure at *The Sunday Times* of

London, **Murray Sayle** reported on the escape of an eagle from the London Zoo by following the bird around Regent's Park on a bicycle. It was a minor story in a major journalistic career, but it suggested Mr. Sayle's inventive and audacious approach to his job: he would go anywhere and get there by any means necessary.

"He reported on an ascent of Mount Everest by joining the expedition. He reported on a trans-Atlantic race for solo sailors by entering it. He chartered a plane to locate the yachtsman Sir Francis



Murray Sayle in Nepal before joining a 1971 Everest expedition.

Chichester as Sir Francis sailed around Cape Horn in his attempt to be the first solo circumnavigator of the globe. He tramped into the Bolivian jungle in search of the Marxist revolutionary Che Guevara, and he found Kim Philby, the British agent who had defected to the Soviet Union, in Moscow."

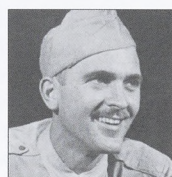
Sayle, 84, an Australian correspondent who reported from Europe, Asia, the Middle East and South America, died September 19 in a Sydney nursing home. After reporting for the *Sydney Daily Telegraph* and writing a column for the *Sydney Daily Mail*, Sayle moved to London in 1952 and worked on Fleet Street. Over the next years, he was an Agence France Press correspondent in Paris and Geneva; a correspondent for *The Times* of London and the *Sunday Times* in Vietnam, the Middle East, Northern Ireland, India-Pakistan and Bolivia; Asian editor of *Newsweek*; and a freelancer in Japan. In frail health from Parkinson's disease, he returned to Sydney in 2007. Sydney University, which Sayle attended but never graduated, awarded him an honorary doctorate.

In a tribute to Sayle, OPC member **Don Kirk** wrote, "I went with him on numerous stories out of Saigon. He wrote about 2,000 words every Friday for the *Sunday Times* of London, loved to talk to anyone and everyone, exchange tales and information. Then he shifted to Japan, where he wrote for the *Sunday Times* and numerous others, including *The New Yorker* and the *Atlantic*. A couple of memorable pieces had to do with Hiroshima and the shoot down of KAL 007 by a Soviet fighter plane. Murray and his wife Jenny, whom he met when she took dictation from him on short-wave calls as he was traversing the Atlantic in a sail boat for the *Sunday Times*, lived with their three children in a farmhouse south of Tokyo. Murray's novel *Crooked Sixpence* [about an Australian correspondent in London] was republished a couple of years ago and is available now. Jenny had a lot to do with Murray's survival as a free

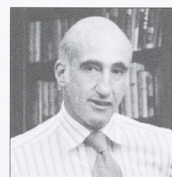
lance in Japan. She taught English, helped support the family during Murray's ups and downs as a freelance. Those who worked on stories with Murray may remember his interviewing style — he did most of the talking, telling garrulous stories, interspersed with caustic remarks, occasionally let the interviewee interrupt with a comment."



Howard Brodie, 94, an artist who sketched three wars and some of America's most famous trials, died September 19 at his home near Parkfield, California. During World War II, he sketched soldiers in action in Guadalcanal, France, Belgium and Germany, and his drawings were published in *Yank*, the U.S. Army's weekly magazine. He drew pictures of the Korean War for *The San Francisco Chronicle*; and French Foreign Legion Troops in Indochina and the Vietnam War for AP and *Collier's* magazine. While working primarily for the CBS Evening News, Brodie sketched the trials of the Chicago Seven, Charles Manson, Patty Hearst, Jack Ruby, Sirhan Sirhan, Bobby Searle and William Calley.



Thomas Guinzburg, 84, a co-founder of *The Paris Review*, died September 8 in New York City of complications following heart bypass surgery. He and several others including a former Yale roommate founded the American literary magazine in 1953. His father, **Harold K. Guinzburg**, founded Viking Press, and when he died in 1961 his son took over as president of the book publisher. **Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis** was among editors of the book publisher hired by the younger Guinzburg.



British journalist and author **Michael Burn**, 97, died September 3 of a stroke at his North Wales home after a life of adventure. He briefly supported Nazism, owned a copy of *Mein Kampf* signed for him by Hitler, later supported Marxism, commanded a World War II commando

raid on the fortified port of St. Nazaire, France in 1942, was captured by the Germans, spent the remainder of the war in POW camps, wrote the novel *Yes, Farewell* while a prisoner, had love affairs with British spy Guy Burgess and Baroness Ella van Heemstra, provided food that saved the life of the baroness' daughter Audrey Hepburn, and reported from Vienna, Budapest and Belgrade for the *London Times*.



Alberto Schazin, 81, for many years a UPI correspondent and manager in South America, died September 4 in Buenos Aires. He also worked on Chester, UPI's Latin American desk in New York City.



George Sweers, 82, a former AP photographer in Asia, died of cancer August 27 in a St. Petersburg, Florida hospital. Sweers joined AP in Kansas City in 1945 and volunteered to cover the Korean War. After Korea, he was AP's Far East photo editor based in Tokyo. Sweers left the wire service in 1959 and joined the *St. Petersburg Times* as Photo Editor, later becoming Director of News Illustrations at the newspaper. He retired in 1992 after 33 years with the *Times*.



Carlos Mendo, 77, co-founder of the Spanish newspaper *El Pais* and a veteran foreign correspondent, died August 23 after a long illness. He started his career at the Spanish news agency EFE in 1958 and moved in 1962 to UPI as Rome correspondent and then bureau chief for Spain. From 1966 to 1969, Mendo was EFE Managing Director. He co-founded *El Pais* in 1972 and was the newspaper's London correspondent, Foreign News Editor and Managing Director of its operations in the United States.



Harold Dow, 62, who won Emmys for his coverage of the 1988 bombing of PanAm Flight 103 over Scotland and the 1996 movement of U.S. troops into Bosnia, died suddenly August 21 of an apparent asthma attack in New Jersey.

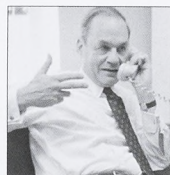
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(Continued From Page 9)

During nearly 40 years with CBS News he was a correspondent for "48 Hours," "CBS Evening News with Dan Rather" and "CBS News Sunday Morning."



The *New York Times* called **Edwin Newman** a "newsman, defender of English and partisan of puns." Example: A man who blotted his wet shoes with a newspaper explained, "These are The Times that dry men's soles." Newman, 91, died of pneumonia in Oxford, England August 13, but announcement of his death was delayed



until September 15 to allow time for his family to grieve privately. Newman and his wife moved to England from the United States in 2007 to live closer to their daughter.

Newman started his career before World War II taking dictation in the Washington bureau of International News Service, then joined United Press, served in the U.S. Navy from 1942 to 1945, returned to UP, worked in the Washington bureau of the New York newspaper *PM*, joined Tufty News Service in Washington and in 1947 joined CBS News in Washington. Two years later, he moved to London to work as a freelance newsman before joining NBC News as a correspondent in 1952. He was NBC bureau chief in London, Rome and Paris before settling in New York in 1961.

Newman moderated the first Ford-Carter presidential debate in 1976 and the second Reagan-Mondale debate in 1984.

He covered the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, the assassination of President Kennedy, and the shootings of Robert Kennedy, Martin Luther King Jr., George Wallace and Ronald Reagan. Newman displayed his sense of humor when he told *Newsweek* that he had "a spotless record of being in the wrong place at the wrong time," recalling that he left London for Morocco in 1952 only to learn on arriving that King George VI had just died.

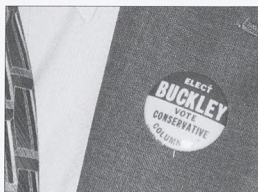
Franz Schurmann, 84, one of the founders of Pacific News Service and an expert on China, died August 20 at his San Francisco home of complications from Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases. In 1970, he and Sinologist **Orville Schell** started Pacific News Service to provide news and commentary about Asia. Now known as the New America Media, it serves some 2,000 ethnic news organizations. His widow, **Sandy Close**, is its executive director. Schurmann was a professor of history and sociology at the University of California, Berkeley, for 38 years. He was fluent in 12 languages and served as a U.S. Army censor of Japanese newspapers after World War II.



Australian journalist **Robert Houston**, who founded several magazines in Hong Kong, has died of liver cancer, the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Hong Kong reported in August. Houston founded, published and edited *Action Asia* magazine in the 1990s. Moving into contract publishing in 2002, he started other magazines including *Macau Motor Sport* and *Security Hong Kong*.

CORRECTION: The new president of the Foreign Correspondents' Club in Tokyo, **Georges Baumgartner**, is a long-time correspondent in Japan for the French language service of Swiss Radio/TV. *The Bulletin* reported incorrectly in September that he worked for Italy's all-news channel SKY TG24, which is **Pio D'Emilia's** broadcaster. Baumgartner defeated him in the June election.

O'Rourke Book Night Photos



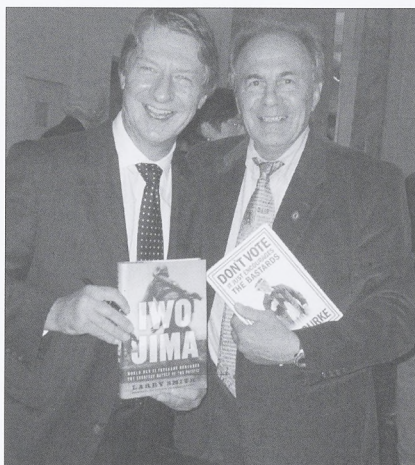
Some attendees wore campaign buttons to toast O'Rourke's book. See page 3 for event recap.

Photos: Aimee Vitrak

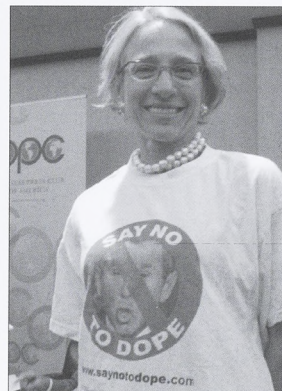


From left: Rosalind Massow and Barbara Burns who wore a "Hillary Clinton for President" button.

Yvonne Dunleavy and Stevenson Swanson. Dunleavy wore a John Edwards button that read "hubba hubba."



From left: P.J. O'Rourke and Larry Smith exchange their books before the event.



Pamela Title, wife of OPC President David Andelman, displays her political T-shirt.

Press Freedom Report: Good News, Finally, for Two Mexican Journalists

Freedom of the Press Report
September 28, 2010

The work of OPC's Freedom of the Press Committee can seem like a hopelessly frustrating exercise at times. But last week, the reason the FOP continues to bother making noise about colleagues in jeopardy was brought home to us by a court in Texas.

In 2008, the Committee took up the cause of two Mexican journalists who sought asylum in the United States after receiving threats on their lives. The first, Emilio Gutiérrez Soto, had been making enemies within the Mexican army for several years with his reports in *El Diario del Noroeste* about the involvement of soldiers in criminal activity. He'd already hear from an army major that "You should be afraid of us" when in May of 2008, soldiers raided his home (allegedly in search of drugs and weapons). He reported the event for his paper, and a month later, a friend told him the elements in the army had marked him for death. He fled with his 15-year-old son to El Paso and applied for asylum.

A few months later, Jorge Luis Aguirre, editor of the on-line newspaper La Polaka, was on his way to a murdered colleague's funeral when he received a call on his mobile phone warning "You're next." He immediately followed Gutiérrez into exile in Texas. Aguirre's supposition was that the threat came from somewhere in a local prosecutor's office, who had been the target of reporting by La Polaka alleging corruption. (See "People" item on page 6.)

The FOP supported the asylum applications of both reporters, and last week, we had the good news that Aguirre's petition has been granted.

Especially since the Mexican government's declaration of "war" against the narcotic traffickers in 2006, Mexican reporters have found themselves covering one of the most dangerous beats in the world. According to Mexico's National Commission on Human Rights, since 2000, a total of 65 journalists in Mexico have been killed in violence. If those numbers are correct, the country is now the deadliest in which to practice journalism.

Carlos Spector, an El Paso attorney handling the Gutiérrez case, suggests that the decision in favor of Aguirre may sig-

nal good news for other threatened Mexican reporters seeking asylum in the United States. "What has changed is the situation in Mexico," Spector told the Associated Press, "where it's now impossible to deny reality." The decision in favor of Aguirre, he suggested, "is an indication that the asylum office is now listening."

The work of the FOP, arguing with prosecutors and heads of state on behalf of abused journalists around the world, doesn't often bring such concrete results. But it does so often enough that it confirms the necessity of what we do.

Since the last board meeting the Committee has been active on several fronts, including not only Mexico (again) but: Afghanistan, where NATO coalition forces arrested three Afghanistan journalists and charged them with collaborating with the Taliban. The trio was subsequently released.

Argentina, where President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner has been campaigning against the newspapers, Clarín and La Nación, for their unfavorable coverage of his government.

Pakistan, where the Committee joined local journalists and media associations in deploring the actions taken in Pakistan to shut down TV stations and newspapers



Activists stage a protest in support of Ukrainian TV Channel 5 outside a court building in Kiev.

that had reported on your (Pakistan's president) embarrassing encounter in Birmingham.

South Africa, where legislation now before parliament proposes restrictions on press freedom unprecedented since the days of apartheid.

Ukraine, where the level of harassment, attacks and violence on the working press in Ukraine seems to be escalating to a new and dangerous level.

The Committee, as it does every month, asks the board and the Club's members for active help in its work.

Respectfully submitted by
Kevin McDermott

New Books: *(Continued From Page 12)*

tion "Do newspapers still matter?" with a resounding yes. The author has reported and written for newspapers and magazines for 45 years, has written several other books and has been a sports and general-interest columnist. **Bill Kovach**, former *New York Times* Washington bureau chief, wrote, "Dave Kindred combines a deep love of daily journalism with a sports writer's narrative skill to tell a powerful story of one newspaper struggling to keep its trademark standards and values intact into the Internet era."

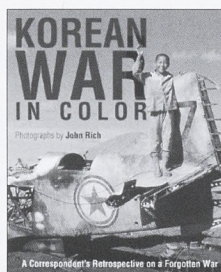
— by Al Kaff

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Newark	5 mins									
JFK	7 mins									
Hamptons	45 mins									

New Books

ASIA

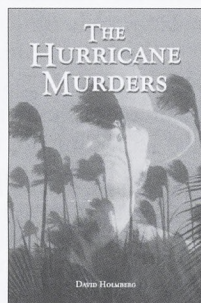
DURING THE KOREAN WAR most news photographers including the famous **Carl Mydans** shot in black and white because that was what their publishers required. But **John Rich** bought a Nikon and snapped color photos for his own enjoyment while reporting from the war for International News Service and NBC News. Rich took more than 1,000 color photos during the Korean fighting. He stored them in a Japanese tea box while he moved from assignment to assignment in Asia and Europe. A few years ago, Rich dug out the old photos, and they were the subject of a November 2008 article in the *Smithsonian* magazine. Now his collection has been published in South Korea in a book, *Korean War in Color: A Correspondent's Retrospective on a Forgotten War* [Seoul Selection]. It's a heavy book and priced at \$84, Rich, 93, an OPC member, told this column from his home in Maine. One reviewer wrote,



"In vivid hues of blue, green and red, Mr. John Rich's photographs take the war out of history books, allowing readers to better connect with a conflict that, while forgotten, continues to impact the lives of Koreans to this day."

NORTH AMERICA

THE READER and this correspondent should be relieved that they never worked for the *Citizen* nor its city editor. That small-town Florida daily and its city editor occupy central background in OPC member **David Holmberg's** novel of detective and newspaper work, *The Hurricane Murders* [Durham, Connecticut: Eloquent Books]. Like many papers today, the *Citizen* is in financial trouble, newsprint costs up and circulation plummeting. Reporter Jake Arnett covers the murder of a mother and daughter and says the city editor "runs the newsroom of my chickenshit newspaper like a quasi-military operation." One reviewer commented, "Journalist David Holmberg has defined a fictional Florida of post-modern bleakness, where hurricanes prowl menacingly and nearly every place seems a venue for anxiety, fear, failure, and even suicide – especially after a chillingly hard-to-fathom murder of a mother and daughter." Holmberg knows his stuff. He has been a reporter for newspapers in



New York, Washington, Miami and Philadelphia, covering stories in this country and abroad. He has written for *The Village Voice*, *The Nation*, *The New York Times Magazine* and a regional edition of *The New York Times*.

NEWSPAPERS REMAIN VITAL to democracy despite this age of blogs and publisher-owners who are more concerned with the bottom line than editorial excellence. That is **David Kindred's** judgment in *Morning Miracle: Inside the Washington Post: A Great Newspaper Fights for Its Life* [New York: Doubleday]. A long-time Washington correspondent, Kindred was given full access to *The Washington Post* offices and its staff in researching his book on the current status of the newspaper industry. In four employee buyouts *The Post* has reduced its newsroom staff by nearly 400 while losing 136,000 subscribers. The paper lost almost \$193 million in 2008. But Kindred writes, "It is still a miracle that you can put 700 overcaffeinated misfits in a newsroom, on deadline, adrenaline running, secrets to spill, and before midnight a messenger delivers a smoking-hot city edition to Don Graham's manse in Georgetown." Kindred answers the ques-



(Continued on Page 11)

Coming Up...

Alan Riding
Book Night
And the Show Went On
October 26
NYU, 6 p.m.

Mort Rosenblum
Book Night
Little Bunch of Madmen
November 3
Club Quarters, 6 p.m.

Overseas Press Club of America
40 West 45 Street
New York, NY 10036 USA